(i) *Dimapur (Nagaland):* Two godowns of a total capacity of 10,000 MT were stipulated to be completed by October, 1999. These were completed and handed over on 23.5.2001. (ii) *Jowai (Meghalaya):* Godowns of a total capacity of 3,750 MT were stipulated to be completed by January, 2000. These godowns were completed and handed over on 26.6.2001. (iii) *Agartala (Tnpura):* Godowns in two units of a total capacity of 5,000 MT were stipulated to be completed by January. 2001. These were completed during June, 2001. The compound wall work and ancillaries are in progress, (iv) *Jiribam (Manipur):* It is proposed to construct godowns with a total capacity of 2,500 MT at this centre. Tenders for godowns have been accepted by the CPWD recently. The target date for completion of the godowns is yet to be fixed, (c) and (d) Delicate law & order situation in the North-Eastern Areas and poor response to call of tenders are the main reasons for slow progress in these works. The matter has been taken up with Director General (Works), CPWD for early completion of the remaining projects.

Imports of Edible Oils

2612. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of imports of edible oils during the last five years;

(b) the details of the reasons for not achieving self-sufficiency in edible oils;

(c) whether any technology mission type approach is proposed to be adopted to accelerate production of edible oilseeds in the country; and

(d) if so,the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Import of edible vegetable oils during the last five years is as under:—

Year	Quantity (in MT)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
1996-97	1415794	292919.32
1997-98	1265753	276467.05
1998-99	2621851	758892.58
1999-2000	4195638	804605.37
2000-2001 (P)	3974638	593275.74

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata.

P: Provisional figures.

(b) to (d) A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was set up in 1986 with a view to increase the production of oilseeds and to make the country self-sufficient in edible oils. This was to be done through adoption of integrated and mission mode approach to production and processing technology, input services support and storage, marketing and processing support etc. As a result of concerted efforts, by the TMO, a large increase in oilseeds production has been achieved. The production of oilseeds which was 10.83 million tonnes in 1985-86 rose to 24.75 million tonnes in 1998-99. There has been a marginal decline in production during the last two year due to drought like conditions in major oilseeds producing states. In order to increase the production and the productivity of oilseeds in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in various states in the country. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided on various inputs like production and distribution of seed, distribution of seed mini-kits, distribution of improved farms implements, sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture and PSB/micro nutrients etc.. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst fanners, frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R. Besides, block and integrated pest management demonstrations are organised through State Department of Agriculture. A new component of crash programme for quality seed production of groundnut and soybean has also been introduced during the Ninth Plan.

Main battle tank unveild by Pakistan

2613. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that. Pakistan has unveiled world's First Main Battle Tank build in collaboration with China; and

(b) if so, the extent to which Pakistani tank is superior to the Indian tanks in all respects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) There are reports indicating that Pakistan has built some tanks called Al Khalid, in collaboration with China. However, this tank is not superior to the tanks being inducted in the Indian army.

Indo-Israel Military Pact

2614.DR. A1XADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Israel are on the verge of sealing a Military-Nuclear Pact;